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# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## **24-HOUR REPORT**

10 November 2022

## (U) CALIFORNIA

## (U) Los Angeles – Southern California Man Admits to Role in 6 January Insurrection

(U) A Southern California man pled guilty to a federal misdemeanor charge for participating in the 6 January 2021 insurrection. The suspect pled guilty to parading, demonstrating, or picketing in the US Capitol Building. The suspect traveled to Washington DC from Los Angeles and entered the Capital. A relative tipped off authorities after Facebook posts located him at the Capitol during the attack, which aimed to forestall certification of the 2020 presidential election. The suspect will be sentenced in February and faces up to six-months in prison.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, Press-Telegram

# (U) Martinez – First-Degree Robbery Charges, Other Felonies for Two Men Suspected in Bank Robbery

(U) Contra Costa County prosecutors have charged two Antioch men with first-and-second-degree robbery and several other felonies after two strong-armed robberies outside a Brentwood bank earlier this year. The two robberies occurred over a four-day span in the parking lot of a Bank of America. Both suspects face two counts of receiving large-capacity magazines and one count of carrying a loaded gun in a public place and possessing a concealed weapon in a vehicle.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, Mercury News

#### (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

## (U) Texas – US Border Agents, DPS Seize Migrants and Marijuana in Starr County

(U) Laredo – US Border Patrol agents discovered 27 migrants hidden in a trailer at a checkpoint on Interstate 35 in Laredo. Border Patrol agents encountered a tractor-trailer at the primary inspection when a service canine alerted to the trailer. Border Patrol agents referred the drive to a secondary inspection. After further inspection, Border Patrol agents discovered people hidden inside the trailer, the migrants were from Guatemala and Mexico. The driver and migrants were taken into custody and processed accordingly.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, US Customs Press Release

#### (U) NATIONAL

## (U) Alaska - Former Air Force Specialist Sentenced to 30-Months for Bribery Scheme Involving Millions

(U) Fairbanks – A former US Air Force Contract Specialist assigned to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson was sentenced to 30-months in prison for conspiracy and agreeing to accept nearly half-a-million in bribes from a private contractor. The suspect accepted bribe payments from Best Choice Construction LLC in exchange for providing confidential bidding information that allowed Best Choice to win contracts worth over \$8.2 million on the construction and related services to the F-35 aircraft program. The suspect and related parties at Best Choice committed multiple overt acts in furtherance of the bribery conspiracy including money laundering.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, US DOJ

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## (U) Arkansas – Three Federal Operations Lead to Dozens of Drug and Firearm Arrests

(U) Little Rock – Three federal investigations culminated in 45 arrests this morning focusing on the pipeline of drugs and firearms between Pine Bluff and Little Rock resulted in the indictment of 80 individuals, all charged with various federal firearms and drug trafficking charges in multiple indictments. Two FBI operations were created to address violence and drug trafficking throughout central Arkansas by focusing on rival gangs Every Body Killas and Loady Murder Mobb which resulted in the indictment of 61 defendants. A third operation, led by the DEA, involved the North Little Rock Police Department and identified street-level methamphetamine and fentanyl dealers in central Arkansas who were connected to the same source supply. The drugs were being mailed into Arkansas from California. The investigation resulted in the indictment of 18 defendants. Authorities seized drugs, firearms, and cash in the multiple investigations.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, US DOJ

#### (U) District of Columbia - No Cyberattacks Affected US Vote Counting, Officials Advise

(U) Washington – No instances of digital interference are known to have affected the counting of the midterm vote after a tense Election Day in which officials were closely monitoring domestic and foreign threats. A few state and local governments appeared to be hit by a relatively rudimentary form of cyberattack that periodically made public websites unreachable. But US and local officials advised that none breached vote-counting infrastructure. Federal agencies had warned that safeguarding US elections has become more complex than ever, with the most serious threats from domestic sources. Foreign adversaries such as Russia, China, and Iran have tried to meddle in individual campaigns and amplify false or misleading narratives on social media.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, KTAR News

## (U) Kentucky – Three Arrested for Illegal Scheme to Export Controlled Data and Defraud the DOD

(U) Lexington – Federal authorities unsealed an indictment on three defendants who allegedly sent technical data drawings related to US Military projects to China and then supplied the Department of Defense with prohibited Chinese-origin Items. The indictment alleges that between December 2018 and January 2020, the defendants sent approximately 70 drawings containing export-controlled technical data to a company located in China without a license for the US government in violation of the Arms Export Control Act and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations. The defendants also imported rare earth magnets that were smelted and magnetized by a company in China and sold them to US companies which were sold for use in military aircraft.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, US DOJ

#### (U) Maryland – Nuclear Engineer and Wife Sentenced for Espionage-related Offenses

(U) Annapolis – A Maryland man and his wife were sentenced for conspiracy to communicate restricted data related to the design of nuclear-powered warships. The suspects conspired to sell restricted defense information that would place sensitive data in the hands of an adversary of the US and put the safety of our military and our nation at risk. While an employee of the Department of the Navy and access to "Restricted Data," the suspect a package to a foreign government and continued correspondence for several months with a representative who was a FBI agent. He was arrested after pre-arranging a "dead drop." The suspects face 20-years in prison.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, <u>US DOJ</u>

## (U) Pennsylvania – Syrian Refugee who Plotted Church Bombing Sentenced to 17-Years

(U) Pittsburgh – A young Syrian refugee who conspired with people he believed to be Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) sympathizers to blow up a North Side church will spend 17-years in prison likely followed by deportation. The ISIS sympathizers, with whom Mustaga Mousab Alowemer thought he was

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plotting, were undercover federal agents who had zeroed in on the then-high school student in early 2019. The ultimate plan would have destroyed the Legacy International Worship Center as well as other nearby homes. The suspect pledged allegiance to ISIS, shared numerous pieces of ISIS propaganda, drew up plans and conspired with an undercover agent, including buying nails, acetone and batteries for making a bomb.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

# (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) Mexico - Three Americans Found Dead at Airbnb in Mexico

(U) Mexico City – Three Americans were found dead in an Airbnb they rented out in Mexico City for a trip to celebrate the Mexican holiday Dia de los Muertos. Post-mortem examinations suggested the two men and one woman died of carbon monoxide poisoning. The gas is often produced by improperly vented or leaky gas water heaters and stoves. Police advised security guards at the apartment building called "after they detected an intense smell of gas in an apartment." Tourists dying of gas inhalation has been a persistent problem in Mexico, where proper gas line installations, vents and monitoring devices are lacking.

SOURCE: 9 November 2022, CBS News

# (U) Turkey – Detains 19 People For Alleged ISIS Links

(U) Ankara – Turkish authorities have detained at least 19 people with alleged links to the ISIS terror group. Anti-terror police in Ankara launched raids in the premised of 15 foreign nationals over their alleged ties with the terror group, some ow whom had been active inside the group in the past years. The Turkish government designated ISIS a terrorist organization in 2013, blaming it for a spate of deadly attacks in the country since 2015. Turkey's southern border with Syria has been a popular crossing point for civilians and foreign fighters since the civil ware broke out in 2011.

SOURCE: 10 November 2022, The Slasat Daily

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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